Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method of inhibiting atherosclerosis in a subject suffering from hyperlipidemia which comprises administering to the subject a polypeptide comprising ~~the extracellular domain of~~ the amino acid sequence of soluble receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (sRAGE) or a derivative thereof capable of inhibiting an interaction between amyloid-β peptide and receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE) in an amount effective to inhibit atherosclerosis in the subject.

Claim 2 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a mammal.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the mammal is a human.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a diabetic subject.

Claim 5-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has a glucose metabolism disorder.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is an obese subject.

Claim 10-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier during the administration of the polypeptide.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the administering is effected by intralesional, intraperitoneal, intramuscular or intravenous injection, infusion, liposome-mediated delivery, or topical, nasal, oral, ocular or otic delivery

Claim 17 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is administered daily.

Claim 18 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the effective amount of the polypeptide comprises from about 0.000001 mg/kg body weight to about 100 mg/kg body weight.

Claim 19-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the hyperlipidemia is hypercholesterolemia.

Claim 37 (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the hyperlipidemia is hypertriglyceridemia.

Claim 38-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is an antibody or portion thereof capable of specifically binding to RAGE.

Claim 41 (withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 42 (withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 43 (withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the portion of the antibody is a complementarity determining region.

Claim 44 (withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the portion of the antibody is a variable region.

Claim 45 (withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the portion of the antibody is an Fab portion.

Claim 46 (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.